

Message

From: Berkoff, Michael [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=F347C01A92D7424FA840C24F6B7FBF6B-MBERKOFF]
Sent: 4/5/2017 8:19:48 PM
To: Newman, Erin [newman.erin@epa.gov]; Russell, Diane [russell.diane@epa.gov]; Ruesch, Paul [ruesch.paul@epa.gov]; Kierys, Dawid [kierys.dawid@epa.gov]; Coombs, Lauryn [Coombs.Lauryn@epa.gov]; Hulting, Melissa [hulting.melissa@epa.gov]
CC: Gavin, Megan [gavin.megan@epa.gov]; Weiss, Benjamin [weiss.benjamin@epa.gov]; Lasky, Lara [lasky.lara@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Kalamazoo as a "Focus Community" and You as the Kalamazoo Team!

Sounds great Erin.

From: Newman, Erin
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 1:42 PM
To: Berkoff, Michael <berkoff.michael@epa.gov>; Russell, Diane <russell.diane@epa.gov>; Ruesch, Paul <ruesch.paul@epa.gov>; Kierys, Dawid <kierys.dawid@epa.gov>; Coombs, Lauryn <Coombs.Lauryn@epa.gov>; Hulting, Melissa <hulting.melissa@epa.gov>
Cc: Gavin, Megan <gavin.megan@epa.gov>; Weiss, Benjamin <weiss.benjamin@epa.gov>; Lasky, Lara <lasky.lara@epa.gov>
Subject: Kalamazoo as a "Focus Community" and You as the Kalamazoo Team!

Hi All,

First of all, thanks for all your background help with Kalamazoo. We had an excellent trip out there and met a lot of impressive stakeholders. After visiting in person and some follow up with management here, my division is willing to volunteer that ARD (ie I guess that means me) would lead a community assessment effort in Kalamazoo for the next year to 18 months alongside the sustainability work already planned under Imagine Kalamazoo. As I've already told most of you separately, it's a priority for ARD and for Brownfields to have "community projects" ongoing. In addition, there was a meeting with Bob Kaplan last week, and he's very interesting in us having "feel-good" stories of positive impacts we are having in communities.

However, our recommendation to management is that we make Kalamazoo a multi-media (now called "Focus") community effort, not just an ARD project. We came to this conclusion because there is already so much excellent work ongoing in this area. It seems kind of odd for us to just come into Kalamazoo as the Air Division and completely ignore the rest of the EPA efforts. In addition, the city has multi-media sustainability goals, so we can better help them if we work across divisions.

So my request is that we form a "Kalamazoo Team." I would assume that Paul and Michael, your respective pieces would basically be the SF work you already have, but we'd have some format to update each other. Diane, you and I discussed incorporating the community outreach meetings you have this spring. Lauryn, I would assume you'd have the brownfields work and that Dawid/I would be connecting with you on the EE/Historic Buildings effort. Dawid, Melissa and I are all volunteering to help on the energy side and we may look for some compliance assistance opportunities. We probably need someone from Water Division, too, and I'd be open to suggestions if someone knows a good point of contact.

I don't want this project to either 1.) alter the direction your established programs have in Kalamazoo or 2.) have my division take credit for your work. But I would like us to have a cohesive message and for you to be able to refer citizen concerns, etc. back to this team so we could try to address them the best we can.

ARD wants to officially launch in May. So let me know what you think. I assume we'll have monthly conference calls or something to update each other, plus you can email as necessary. So that's the time commitment to be "team-y." If you need my management to talk to your management, etc., I'm happy to arrange it.

Thanks!!

Erin

Erin Newman
US EPA Region 5
Air and Radiation Division

312-886-4587

Mailing Address:
US EPA
77 W Jackson Blvd (AT-18J)
Chicago, IL 60604